

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

App. No. : 10/506,493 Confirmation No. 1583
Applicant : Akihiko Namba, et al.
Filed : September 3, 2004
T.C./A.U. : 1722
Examiner : Robert M. Kunemund
Docket No. : 039.0045
Customer No. : 29453

Honorable Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

This constitutes an Information Disclosure Statement pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98. The attached documents listed on the accompanying "IDS List of References" (a substitute for Form PTO/SB/08) are hereby brought to the Examiner's attention in the patent application identified above.

REMARKS

All of the presently submitted foreign patent documents, i.e., Cite Nos. F1 through F3 as listed on sheet 2 of the IDS List of References, are not in English.

The U.S. patent—Cite No. U1 on sheet 1 of the IDS List of References—and Cite Nos. F1 through F3 were cited as primary references in a communication from the Taiwanese Patent Office in a counterpart Taiwanese application.

Concise Explanation of Relevance/Copy of Translation
Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3)

As a concise explanation of the relevance of the presently submitted Japanese-language references, Cite Nos. F1 through F3, an English translation of the Taiwanese Patent Office communication in its entirety is submitted herewith. (A copy of the Taiwanese Patent Office communication in its entirety follows the English translation.)

Furthermore, English abstracts of Cite Nos. F1 through F3 are available on the Japanese Patent Office website through Patent Abstracts of Japan (PAJ), and a copy of the corresponding PAJ abstract is attached to the back of each reference.

STATEMENT AS SPECIFIED IN 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)

The undersigned hereby states that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than 3 months prior to the filing of this statement.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to consider these references, and to indicate so on the accompanying IDS List of References and make the document of record in the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

January 11, 2007

/James Judge/

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